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Photo by Paul Maritz

Panic at the Botanic!

Visitors have swarmed the Brooklyn Botanic Garden to look at the cherry blossoms — but the buds will be way past their peak for the festival weekend, May 1-2. See story, page 9.

CO-OP VS CO-OP

Park Slope Food Coop claims that Barneys Co-op's name is illegal — and the law agrees

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

The venerable Park Slope Food Coop has fired a shot against the fancy-schmancy Barneys Co-op, saying that the department store slated to open later this year on Atlantic Avenue has illegally co-opted the word "co-op" — and one lawyer says the supermarket may actually have a case!

Joe Holtz, the general manager of the famously left-leaning, members-only grocery store, has gone public with his concern that Barneys' "misuse" of the legal term "co-op" is a violation of state law.

Holtz cited an article in the state's Cooperative Corporations Law — variously described by two lawyers as "arcane," "anti-



The Park Slope Food Coop thinks Barneys Co-op (right, in SoHo) is violating state law.



Photo by Stephen Brown / The Brooklyn Paper

quoted" and "obscure," but state law nonetheless — that could possibly serve as a legal basis for a David v. Goliath showdown.

"The term 'cooperative'... or

any abbreviation, variation or similitude thereof, shall not be used as, or in, a name except by a corporation defined in this chapter," the law states. "Any cooperative

corporation may sue for an injunction against such prohibited use of the term."

Holtz, who made his objection public, says he's not a lawyer. See CO-OP on page 9

Sobbing in their suds

Freddy's Bar, anti-Ratner mainstay, accepts defeat



Freddy's Bar closes on April 30.

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

Freddy's Bar has given up the fight. The Prohibition-era bar, whose location on Sixth Avenue inside the Atlantic Yards footprint made it the ideal "war room" for project opponents, has accepted an offer from developer Bruce Ratner to quietly shut down the bar and move it to a new location on the current site.

The bar will serve its last tear-filled



beer on April 30. The announcement signals a much-anticipated conclusion for the beloved dive, which was founded by the late Ratner. See BAR on page 2

Raid on anarchist hive

Was police action legit or was it really spying?

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

A police raid of an anarchist collective in Bushwick last Tuesday — which cops claim was a mission simply to arrest two members of the commune who skipped court appearances on minor offenses — may actually have been a intelligence mission at the Thames Street compound.

New details have emerged about the April 13 raid that suggest that the police

What's an anarchist?
SEE PAGE 2

were not only picking up the wanted men, but also picking up information about the anarchists on the eve of the fourth annual Anarchist Film Festival, which took place this weekend.

"[An officer] pulled a file for the festival out and asked, 'Do you know what this is?'" said Sharod Andrews,

one of the men who was arrested. He said that the officer wanted to talk more about Andrews' role in planning the upcoming festival than the bench warrant for missing his court date on an open-container summons.

The filer featured a doctored photograph of the pope wearing bondage gear. As such, he believes police officers were engaging in a "fishing expedition."

Police officials disputed that his arrest was a coincidence, claiming that of-

ficers were pursuing outstanding warrants because the two men did not appear in court on their court date.

The commanding officer of the 90th Precinct, Deputy Inspector Michael Kemper, said cops had no interest in the Bushwick building, which houses 19 collective members, plus assorted hangers-on, beyond the men who missed their court dates.

"If they're not doing anything illegal, and no one is wanted by the police, they have nothing to worry about," said Kemper.

See HIVE on page 2



Cops raided this "anarchist collective" on Thames Street in Greenpoint on Wednesday. Suvi (smoking) was arrested, while his pal, Jai, was not.

Lentol's 'poker' face

Lawmaker wants to legalize card games for money

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas — except for legal poker, one Williamsburg lawmaker is hoping.

Emboldened by the all-but-certain demise of Off Track Betting — the state's sole legalized gambling outfit besides the lottery — Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D-Williamsburg) has proposed legalizing the legendary game of frontmen, card sharps and guys named "Fats."

Lentol said he was inspired by the needs of today's young gamblers.

"Poker is the game that most people want to play now," said the longtime assemblyman, who last made headlines for his promise to swim in the fabled Newtown Creek to attract Google's high-speed Internet service for Greenpoint. "New Yorkers watch it on TV, they play poker on their computers and many would like to go out for a night and

play it in a nice setting."

And without OTB, even more waging fans will head to Atlantic City or Foxwoods to lose their money — money that the state could be getting.

Joe's view is, let's update how people want to be entertained through gambling," said Lentol's Chief of Staff, Cathy Peake. "When Off Track Betting came out, I remember, there were big screens and all sorts of different things you could do. Now people have big screens in their house."

Lentol would not elaborate on what a poker parlor would look like or whether they would replace existing OTB storefronts, but said purkers could have amenities such as snack bars, televisions, and even other sports — as long as they were regulated.

Of course, every good poker player knows that you never count your money when you're sitting at the table. Indeed, Lentol would have better odds of drawing a royal flush than getting his bill into law.

To become law, not only would the bill need to pass both houses and be signed by Gov. Paterson, but it would require a Constitutional amendment adopted by voters through a referendum. In other words, fold.



LOW BLOW!

Tenor unpaid, replaced by a bass!

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

It's not over until the thin man sues.

A battle between a diva-esque tenor and a tiny opera museum hit a new crescendo this week when the former artistic director of the Enrico Caruso Museum of America announced that he would sue the curator of the obscure institution — though he's not really sure why yet!

The dispute stems from that most operative of slights: Not only was the tenor Luciano Lamonarca belted out of his position, but his final performance in his official capacity was tragically undermined when he was replaced at the last minute — by a bass!

Since the museum exists solely to honor the greatest tenor of all time,

Lamonarca was enraged by this affront to all things mid-range.

"I've done everything for this museum — yet they pushed me out," said Luciano Lamonarca, the former publicist for the Sheephead Bay museum. "They wouldn't pay me, they wouldn't acknowledge me, and then they took my performance out from under me."

Now Lamonarca is looking for a way to sue his former employer Aldo Mancusi, who runs the museum out of the attic of his Homestead home. But their feud didn't reach a breaking point until that fateful night on April 9, when Lamonarca was scheduled to sing an aria at Borough Hall to recognize 15 years of the museum's dedication to the late Italian tenor.

Some facts are not in dispute: Lamonarca and his virtuoso pianist were the



Photo by Paul Maritz

O, SOLO MIO: Opera tenor Luciano Lamonarca (top) says he was snubbed by the Enrico Caruso Museum, and its chief, Aldo Mancusi (above).

only performers on the concert ticket that night. Since his hire in December last year, Lamonarca had been complaining that he was never officially named "artistic director" — despite his claims that he did everything in his power to publicize the museum and its Web site — and his desire to turn the position into a paying job.

See OPERA on page 10

A concrete Boardwalk?

By Michèle De Meglio
The Brooklyn Paper

Is Coney Island's famed Boardwalk becoming a sidewalk?

The city is now replacing the wood planks on the Riegelmann Boardwalk with large concrete slabs from Ocean Parkway to Brighton First Road.

"It's not going to look like wood at all," admitted Martin Maher, chief of staff for the Parks Department in Brooklyn.



These metal planks along the Coney Island Boardwalk will soon be topped with concrete, not wood, planks. Purists are horrified.

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NYU's big expansion plan includes tower

Skyscraper would house classes, offices

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

As part of a bold new Brooklyn campus, New York University is talking about building a 41-story tower on Jay Street near Myrtle Avenue—a striking proposal that would radically change the face of Downtown.

But after the elite private institution released its rendering of a skyline-dominating L-shaped tower next to its Polytechnic University affiliate on Jay Street.

"[The rendering] is an illustration of the possible massing that is available," said NYU spokesman John Beckman. He called the proposal a "massing illustration" rather



The tower would loom over even high-rise Downtown.

than a "rendering," and was quick to add, "It's not what we're proposing. We're not saying that's what we want to have happen."

That said, Beckman did not pro-

vide a rendering of what he says that the school wants to do.

Beckman's linguistic acrobatics are odd, considering that the Manhattan-based college presented the skyscraper as part of its larger city-wide growth plan, which calls for expansions of NYU's presence in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

According to that plan, the bottom 25 floors of the proposed tower would house academic facilities. The remaining portion, the lucrative top floors, would be set aside for non-university offices, presumably for an outside company that would be keen to occupy a prominent work-space with glorious views of Manhattan.

NYU can build such a structure because it has acquired air-rights from neighboring buildings, including its Polytechnic University affiliate. But the school has said that it

would rather cut up those air rights and build smaller buildings in an around the Metrotech office complex.

"Existing 'as-of-right' massing may not be the most desirable for academic uses," said NYU spokeswoman Alicia Hurley.

As such, the proposal to build a tower is merely a negotiating ploy to get permission to build several smaller buildings, which would require city approvals that the lone tower would not.

"We would likely pursue city approvals to re-situate and spread the massing in a way that is more conducive to academic priorities," she said.

The notion of a broader NYU campus seems in line with the university's statement that it would not only be expanding in the sciences at its Polytech affiliate, but also into the performing arts and other fields.

Previously, Hurley said NYU will look at a combination of academic, administrative and student housing in Downtown.

Both Hurley and a spokeswoman for Polytech said the immediate future would involve upgrades to current facilities.

The plan also calls for a much-less striking addition to a Polytech dormitory at Lawrence and Johnson streets.

A bike lane for Flatbush?

Cyclists want one in wake of fatal crash

By Thomas Tracy
for The Brooklyn Paper

A day after an 18-year-old Kensington cyclist was dragged and killed by a driver on Flatbush Avenue last week, bike advocates called on the city to put a bike lane on the heavily traveled thoroughfare.

"[A Flatbush Avenue bike lane] is definitely something worth serious consideration," said Transportation Alternatives spokesman Wiley Norvell. "It's a dangerous street for bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists as well. It would definitely be a design challenge, but that's what we have traffic engineers for."

Norvell said a bike lane stretching from the tip of the Manhattan Bridge in Downtown all the way to the Gil Hodges Memorial Bridge in Marine Park would not only help calm traffic, but "link the borough together" for bicyclists.

"It's a critical corridor—if it was made safe for cycling, it would be utterly transformative," he said.

Despite the daily dose of aggressive motorists and half-crazed dollar van drivers, more and more bicyclists have been seen trying their luck along Flatbush Avenue.

But that decision proved fatal for Jake McDonough, who was struck by

a changing minivan and then dragged for several feet near the corner of Flatbush Avenue and Beverly Road last Wednesday morning.

Motorist Michael Odey, 29, was arrested and charged with criminally negligent homicide for allegedly zipping around a slower car and blowing through a red light before striking McDonough.

Such behavior is a typical of a dangerous "highway mindset" that overcomes many motorists on Flatbush Avenue, according to Norvell.

"That kind of driving behavior is contagious," he said. "Even when they leave Flatbush Avenue, they carry that with them for several blocks in every direction."

Flatbush Avenue is currently not mentioned in the city's Bike Master Plan, which hopes to double two-way bike commuting in the five boroughs by 2015.

A Department of Transportation spokesman said a bike lane for Flatbush Avenue isn't needed, since there are already several bike lanes that "essentially run parallel to it."

Of course, no street is parallel to the diagonal Flatbush Avenue, but the city does provide bike routes on Jay Street, Dean Street, Bergen Street and Carlton Avenue serve bi-



A cyclist died on Flatbush Avenue last Wednesday.

cyclists that funnel cyclists to the Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges. South of Prospect Park, bicyclists are served by a lane running along Bedford Avenue.

And a bike lane on Flatbush Avenue would be a likely non-starter for Borough President Markowitz, who slammed Department of Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan earlier this week as an anti-car zealot.

Markowitz opposes a plan for a two-way bike lane on Prospect Park

West, which would cut one of the three lanes for cars.

"We just disagree on certain instances where I'm acutely aware that she wants to make it hard for those who choose to own automobiles," Markowitz said. "I really believe that ... she would like to see more people stop car usage and use their bicycles or walk."

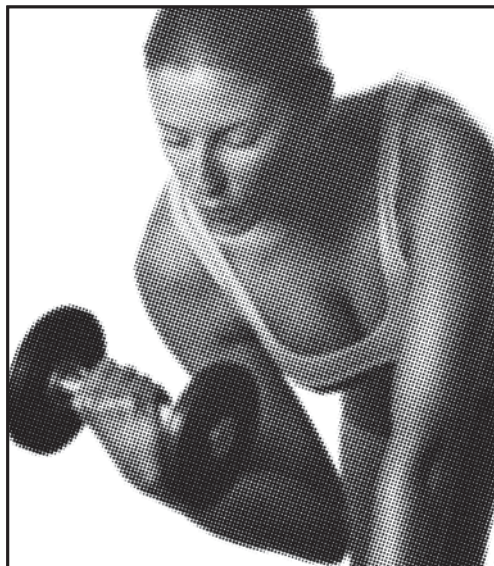
But the death may have changed things. When approached about creating a bike lane for Flatbush Avenue in light of Wednesday's fatality, Markowitz softened his tone.

"I've supported the creation of many bike lanes in Brooklyn and am certainly open to considering the merits and feasibility of any such proposal," he said.

Transportation Alternatives is not actively campaigning for a bike lane on Flatbush Avenue, Norvell said. Yet, looking at similar streets in the city, he surmised that Flatbush Avenue would need more than a painted bike lane.

"When there's more traffic, paint doesn't do the job. Streets that carry a lot of traffic like this is a different animal," he said, adding that jersey barriers may have to be installed "to provide physical protection from the moving lanes."

Such barriers were installed on Tillary Street near the Brooklyn Bridge.



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HIVE

Continued from page 1

Residents of the Thames Street space aren't comforted by Kemper's comment.

They believe that officers saw them posted in the neighborhood, which included a reference to festival events that would be held there last weekend.

"There have been a lot of raids in alternative spaces in the city," said Vlad, a videographer who declined to give his last name. "The way they did it shows a lack of respect for the people in this neighborhood."

Adam Weissman, an environmental activist who lives and works in the area, said that Andrews was wrongly targeted. Certainly, some of the nearly 50 people living in the space are activists, others, like Andrews, are merely looking for a cheap place to live.

In the end, Andrews' case was dismissed.

"The judge said I should stay out of trouble for the next six months," said Andrews. "I don't get into trouble."

BAR

Continued from page 1

has spent the last few years as a peacemaker, though no less serious, foil to the developer. Through the seven-year Atlantic Yards saga, Freddy's earned plenty of media coverage for a welter of stunts, including taking Brooklyn Lager off the menu after the Williamsburg-based brewery signed a deal with Ratner, decapitating eaves of eminent domain and banks with a guillotine covered in Pabst Blue Ribbon labels; and having barflies don oversized masks and give interviews as key "villains" like Ratner, Borough President Markowitz and Mayor Bloomberg.

The bar, which is at Dean Street, also installed "chains of justice" to which protesters were expected to secure themselves when Ratner's bulldozers finally began their assault.

Though the chains will no longer be necessary, bar manager Donald O'Finn said they did their job.

"The chains raised awareness," O'Finn said. "Whether people get arrested or not won't affect the project—though I personally don't think it's ever going to get built."

O'Finn said that devel-

ANATOMY OF AN ANARCHIST

- Stolen street sign.
- Hooded sweatshirt indicating disdain for "The Man."
- Antique silver tinsmith hiding an old man's secrets.
- Wool/nylon cap, because there's no heat in building.
- Ironie graphic T-shirt of a tiger to blend in with the local hipsters.
- "We have no idea what this means."
- SOUL FENSTER (LOL)
- Complete lack of respect for city recycling laws.
- Cool sneakers not made by children in labor camp.
- Ironie graffiti. Anarchists don't have friends.
- Fire hazard.

oper Ratner and Freddy's owner Frank Yost reached an agreement last Thursday that allowed the bar to move its contents to a new location—an alternative to continued fighting and a likely loss of everything in the condemnation process that is making room for the proposed Barclays Center.

Now, all the trappings that helped make Freddy's one of the best bars in the city will move to the new location near the corner of Fourth Avenue

and Union Street.

O'Finn explained that his opposition to the project remained as strong as ever, but that the financial insecurity surrounding the bar since the state seized the property through eminent domain last month became too much.

"We're little guys," O'Finn said. "We have a lot of mouths to feed and we are not billionaires."

Freddy's was one of the first holdouts in the footprint of the Barclays Center arena.

Though the legal wrangling between Ratner and project opponents continues, the closing of Freddy's in Prospect Heights stands as yet another sign that Ratner will realize his vision of a hardscored Kanawha in the heart of Brooklyn.

But O'Finn added that "Freddy's Next Bar" will continue to oppose it.

"We're not through—we're just moving to another corner of the ring!" he said.

A spokesman for Ratner had no comment.

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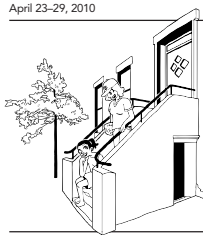
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THE SHOOP

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

WILLIAMSBURG



'Rose' Plan in full bloom

Vote moves project ahead

By Aaron Shvort
The Brooklyn Paper

A controversial three-tower residential complex along the South Williamsburg waterfront received its final approval from the City Council last week — a final rubber stamp that came only after the developer promised more below-market-rate units and larger apartments for Hasidic families.

The Council's 47-1 vote last Wednesday allows Hasidic community leader Isaac Rosenberg to convert his lumber yard on Kent Avenue into the 754-unit Rose Plaza — but the approval was also a significant victory for freshman Councilman Steve Levin (D-Williamsburg).

Levin opposed the project up to the last day, until Rosenberg committed to setting aside 30 percent of the project as "affordable housing" and configuring the project so that there would be 14 of the four-bedroom and 60 of the three-bedroom units that are so highly sought after by Hasidic Jews.

But after the vote, Levin in refusal to take credit for his behind-the-scenes battle with Rosenberg. "I am proud that the communities I represent stood up... to demand a development that will benefit the community," said Levin. "We are now guaranteed a development that will accommodate the Williamsburg community."

The vote ends months of uncertainty for the plan, which was overwhelmingly rejected by Community Board 1 and also shot down by Borough President Markowitz before Levin's negotiations. As a result, Markowitz and the community board now say they support the re-tolled project.

"We have achieved 30 percent affordable housing at an overall density and scale of development that is compatible with other waterfront rezonings in Greenpoint and Williamsburg," said CBI Land Use Committee Chairman Ward Dennis. "This is the balance that the community board has sought all along."

The project, located at Kent and Division avenues, is a decade away from reality. Before anything can be built, the possibly toxic site may need to be fully cleaned. In the meantime, Rosenberg must find a financial partner to develop the property. It's unclear who will be interested in partnering with a man who defaulted on a \$50-million mortgage last year at a nearby development project.

PARK SLOPE

Dancewave gets its money back!

Pro-bono work by lawyer avenges last year's scam

By Claire Glass
for The Brooklyn Paper

The Park Slope youth dance troupe that was cheated out of more than \$100,000 earlier this year by a rogue travel agent is finally getting its money back.

A lawyer who volunteered his services to the Fourth Avenue company after reading our coverage of the theft said this week that a bank is going to restore the troupe's funds.

"We're feeling great," said Dancewave Director Diane Jacobowitz. "This is a real fairy tale story."

It's a fairy tale story that almost didn't get its happy ending. The troupe was invited to compete in the Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Scotland last fall, and from there, Dancewave's teenaged ensemble worked to raise the money with a

benefit show, and part-time jobs. But Jacobowitz was swindled by an impostor travel agent claiming to work for Virginia-based Adam Travel Services — who absconded with more than \$100,000. Instead of buying the airline tickets, the crew only reserved the flights — taking the money and depositing it in a private account.

News reports of the scam initiated an outpouring of support from the community, including the pro-bono work of lawyer Jay Ikwowitz.

Ikwowitz targeted Adam Travel, but the agency said that it had been scammed by the rogue agent, too. That statement allowed Ikwowitz to go to Wachovia Bank, which agreed to swallow the loss on the grounds that it had accepted the agent's fraudulent check.

"Ultimately the bank that accepts the fraudulent deposit is on the hook for the loss," said Ikwowitz.

Other Park Slope businesses got behind the troupe to help, including workers at Corcoran Realty, who pooled their money and also got their friends involved. British Airways also offered support.

And Nick Kotsomits, owner of the S Club fitness center on Union Street, came through with a \$10,000 donation of his own.

"Everybody has been so generous and supportive," said Nola Smith dance troupe member and a high school senior in Park Slope. "This woman did this to dozens of people. We knew we wouldn't be seeing our money by the time we needed it, so we were motivated to keep trying to raise money and so many people helped."



Dancewave Executive Director Diane Jacobowitz shows off the check for the stolen money that her lawyer recovered.

BOERUM HILL

Another dog napped!

Beloved Cocker disappears off Third Avenue

By Thomas Tracy
for The Brooklyn Paper

A beloved Cocker Spaniel was apparently dog-napped on Tuesday night as he waited for his master outside a Boerum Hill deli. Jon Crawford-Phillips, who is now offering \$1,000 for his dog's safe return — said he last saw little Tommy as he tied his best friend's leash to a hook outside the State Street Gourmet Deli on Third Avenue at 8:30 p.m.

"I went in for about 30 seconds. When I came out he was gone," he said. "I think he was taken. This whole ordeal has been quite traumatic."

Thompy — short for Thompson — couldn't have freed himself and run off, Crawford-Phillips said. Someone must have untied the leash.

The dog owner said that his 4-year-old pup's greatest personality trait might have been his undoing: Thompy is always



Thompy, a 4-year-old cocker spaniel, was believed to have been stolen outside a State Street deli on Wednesday night. Help find Thompy!

eager to make a new friend — a possible explanation for why no one heard any growling, yelping or whimpering before the dog vanished.

Joyce Virani, a neighbor who is one of Thompy's many fans, could see how the 22-pound dog would have walked off with a stranger. "He's just about the biggest lover you ever met," she said.

The distraught dog owner and two cops toured the neighborhood together minutes after the pup disappeared, but they couldn't pick up the brown-and-tan cocker's trail.

There was also an Internet blast about Thompy's disappearance, but no one has come forward, bolstering Crawford-Phillips' belief that someone stole the dog.

If you have any news about Thompy, please contact Crawford-Phillips at (646) 286-0808.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Food options for new park

Ice cream and lobster rolls for Pier 1?

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

Ice cream and lobster rolls could be an integral part of Brooklyn Bridge Park this summer.

Though officials aren't speaking on the record, we've learned that the finalists to operate food carts on the just-opened Pier 1 portion of Brooklyn's newest open space include Blue Marble Ice Cream and the Red Hook Lobster Pound.

"Warm days, the water, and ice cream — it goes without saying," said Alexis Mieses, owner of the ice cream shop, which has standing locations in Boerum Hill, Cobble Hill and Prospect Heights. "We're hoping to become part of the revival of this waterfront. We're really excited."

Lobster Pound owner Susan Povich is already anticipating being anointed as a concessionaire, unveiling a futuristic "Lobster Cart" with her application, a sleek stand with a faux lobster tail on the side. She said she would serve the Red



Here's how the Red Hook Lobster Pound envisions its Brooklyn Bridge Park food cart. Nice.

Hook shop's lobster rolls, plus hot dogs for the kiddies.

The four stands — including an outdoor wine or beer bar — will offer a variety of Brooklyn-based products, city officials said last month. Officials at the Empire State Development Corporation wouldn't say who will be serving refreshments, but said they'd announce the food slingers' names in May.

Several existing eateries lay in wait near the newly opened park at the foot of Old Fulton Street, including Pete's Downtown, the River Cafe, Ignazio's, Grimaldi's and the Brooklyn Ice Cream Factory.

Surprisingly, owners don't seem too worried. "The park and concessions will bring down so many people — we'll all benefit from that," said Peter Christino, owner of Pete's Downtown, which is still experiencing some problems due to the lack of permanent restroom inside the park.

"I'm from the neighborhood, too," he said. "I want everyone to prosper. I don't want to be the only one down here."

DYKER HEIGHTS

City to Dyker Heights: We still do not have a plan

Fix long overdue for Fort Hamilton exit ramp off Expressway

By Helen Klein
for The Brooklyn Paper

The traffic moves slowly, but the complaints were fast and furious, as Dyker Heights residents slammed the Department of Transportation last week for failing to correct problems the agency caused when it revamped the Fort Hamilton Parkway exit of the Gowanus Expressway.

Last summer, the agency made a series of controversial changes meant to improve pedestrian safety — including installing jersey barriers, eliminating a lane of traffic, and splitting traffic movements — without discussing the plan publicly.

Ever since, frustrated residents have contended with traffic backups — and the increasingly aggressive behavior of drivers caught in them.



The city "fixed" a dangerous off-ramp of the Gowanus Expressway in Dyker Heights, but residents say it created more problems.

The frustration isn't only over the traffic, but the city's response to it. After waiting months for

the Department of Transportation to address the traffic, scores of residents showed up at St. Ephrem's School on

Fort Hamilton Parkway and 74th Street on April 14 after being promised the city would reveal its fix.

But the city had no plan in hand.

"You came unprepared, and that's totally unacceptable," said Fran Barris, who lives at Seventh Avenue and 81st Street.

Deputy Borough Commissioner Keith Bray said it would take two more weeks to come back with a plan for the exit which backs up so badly during rush hour that motorists often drive frantically to get past the jam. It's an accident waiting to happen.

"Someone's going to get hurt," warned Lisa Bonomo, the crossing guard at PS 127, at 78th Street. Bonomo said she has witnessed cars cutting across the grass median to turn onto 70th Street. "Something has got to be done, for the safety of the children and everyone," she said.

Christine Kennedy, who lives on 78th Street, said the main problem was a reconfigured roadway.

"I have my children checking to the left for traffic," she said. "Now, traffic is coming from the right."

Other people at the meeting complained that an emergency vehicle would not be able to get to a crisis during rush hour.

"The classic New York rule is that somebody has to die to get it changed," said John Cullen plan for traffic,

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Vicious beating on Henry Street!

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights—
DUMBO—Boerum Hill—
Downtown

A thug beat down a man and threatened to stab him as

he entered his Henry Street apartment on April 13—but cops caught the bad guy. The 23-year-old victim said he was in the lobby of the apartment building between Clark and Pineapple

streets at around 11:15 pm when the perp swiped his iPod and BlackBerry. The daring victim then attempted to snatch his devices back and got punched in the neck repeatedly for his efforts. During the scuffle, the victim even tried to dial 911 and was beat down further. The thief then fled, but Officer Yeh Yuhui arrested the 22-year-old suspect later that day, though details were not provided.

Shower swipe
A creep entered a State Street apartment while its female occupant was in the shower and stole two Apple computers on April 13.

The woman said that she got in the shower after her housekeeper left the apartment, which is between Nevins Street and Third Avenue, at around 3:50 pm. While bathing, she heard the door slam loudly and rushed to see what had happened. She then noticed that her computers were gone.

One word of caution is essential here: Do not try to operate electrical equipment when you are dripping wet or naked. Or both.

Cell swipe
A thief snatched a cellphone right out of a woman's hand on April 16, but was quickly arrested.

The victim told cops that she was talking on the phone on Jay Street near Johnson Street at around 1 pm when

the thief suddenly grabbed her hand. A struggle ensued, and the brute pushed the woman to the ground and took her phone. Officer Cesar Valerio gave chase and arrested the 18-year-old suspect, though not before the thief fled the scene by jumping over a fence and cutting his hand.

Plant pilfer
The thieving bonanza at Planet Fitness on DuSable Street continues.

The latest incident at the gym between Willowby and Fulton streets, a physically active victim ended up her jacket and purse on April 13 at 10:30 am. When she returned to her locker two hours later, the lock was gone and so was her stuff. She lost \$35, a cellphone, and an assortment of credit cards and IDs.

It's the fourth reported crime at the gym, which opened this year.

—Stephen Brown

88TH PRECINCT
Fort Greene—Clinton Hill

Target trouble
Beware Target customers, yet another week of thefts was gone down at the Atlantic Terminal Mall store. Here's a round-up.

"A perp got away with more than \$2,000 worth of electronic items and luggage on April 11. When an employee noticed the missing shavers, at around 7 pm, he called the cops and provided a surveillance-lance of the crook getting away with the goods."

"A thief nabbed a wallet from a victim's purse on April 12 while she did her shopping. The victim told police that when she got to the checkout line, at around 10 pm, she noticed her wallet was missing."

Bedroom bust
A thief made away with \$12,400 worth of jewelry from a Washington Avenue apartment on March 28.

The victim told cops that there were lots of people in the unit, which between Gates Avenue and Fulton Street, that night, but by morning, she discovered that her valuables were missing.

Beat down
A thief punched one of his victims—then stole his book bag—on DeKalb Avenue on April 14.

The bruised and battered victim told cops that he was near Flatbush Avenue Extension at around 7:45 pm when the violent offender began punching him in the face and head. When the victim hit the ground, the attacker made off with his bag and over \$350 worth of electronics.

High-ticket take
A crook stole more than \$28,000 worth of cash and jewelry from a Ryeon Street home on April 15, leaving the victim with little more than the groceries he went out to buy.

The shopper told cops that he left at around 5 pm and returned two hours later to find an open front door of his home, which is between Park and Myrtle avenues, and numerous valuables missing.

Blackburied
A perp grabbed the cellphone right out of a woman's hand on Atlantic Avenue on April 16.

The victim told cops that she was near Clermont Avenue at around 2 pm—and was in the middle of a sentence!—when the thief cut her conversation short and ran off with her BlackBerry.

—Claire Glass

76TH PRECINCT
Cobble Hill—Red Hook

Kid and rob
Cops busted a woman who tried to steal clothing from a Area Kids on Smith Street on April 13.

According to police, the

thief suddenly grabbed her hand. A struggle ensued, and the brute pushed the woman to the ground and took her phone. Officer Cesar Valerio gave chase and arrested the 18-year-old suspect, though not before the thief fled the scene by jumping over a fence and cutting his hand.

5TH PRECINCT
Park Slope

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(718) 260-2500

The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

April 23-29, 2010

Horsing around!

And they're off — to celebrate the Kentucky Derby!

By Meredith Deliso
for The Brooklyn Paper

It's all the anti-Superbowl. Every year on the first Saturday of May, Kentucky Derby enthusiasts dress to the nines, don towering hats and sip mint juleps in hours of buildup for a sporting event that lasts just two minutes.

While the festivities get underway at the iconic Churchill Downs thousands of miles away, each year, Brooklynites get into the spirit the dapper way, sporting Seersucker Suits and bringing some Southern charm to their local bars.

Here's our Brooklyn guide to the races, from the best parties to the horses themselves to how to make that famous cocktail.

Off the 'hook'

Janne Hook has been a fan of the Derby since he was a little boy.

"I've always been obsessed with the Kentucky Derby," said Hook, who is organizing a Derby party at Pete's Candy Store in Williamsburg for the May 1 festivities. "I love looking forward to something all year that's over in 120 seconds. Most things in this world promise too little and take too long, but the Derby is one of the very few things that promises a lot and takes very little time. I just love that about it."

Derby novices are welcome to partake in the festivities, as the party will feature a hat-making corner for the ladies, stats on all the horses, courtesy of Hook, and an Idiots Stakes — where the losers win.

Get your fill of Southern fare as well with the Bluegrass Blue-Plate Special — barbecued baby-back ribs, potato salad, and Derby pie with whipped cream.

Pete's Candy Store (709 Lorimer St. near Richardson Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302-3077) at 7 pm. Free. For info, visit www.petescandystore.com.

Derby 'Triple Crown'

Pete's isn't the only game in town. The Kentuckians behind the buns Floyd, Union Hall and the Bell House will be bringing the race to all three, for the "Triple Crown" of the Kentucky Derby in Brooklyn.

The Bell House in Gowanus does it up big, with square dancing, live renditions of "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Call to the Post," and some BBQ and Van Leeuwen Artisan Ice Cream.

Park's Slope Union Hall is all about games on the day of the big races, with a Corn-hole bean bag toss — the backwards Bocce — in addition to its



Hats off: The Kentucky Derby gets underway on May 1. Follow our guide for doing the races right in Brooklyn.

regular Bocce courts.

Over at Floyd in Brooklyn Heights, eat like a king while watching the race, with free country ham biscuits and Derby Pie.

All three spots will be giving out prizes for best hat, as well as serving \$5 mint juleps all day long.

"People always enjoy an excuse to drink mint juleps," said the Bell House's Andrew Mumm.

The Bell House (149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510) starting at 1 pm. Tickets \$5. For info, visit www.thebellhouse.nyc.com.

Union Hall (702 Union St. near Fifth Avenue, (718) 638-4400) at noon. Free. For info, visit www.unionhallnyc.com.

Floyd (151 Atlantic Ave. between Henry and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 858-5810) starting around 1 pm. Free. For info, visit www.floydynyc.com.

Place your bets

For those who seriously follow the races

and don't care for mint julep specials or hat-making corners, your best bet for betting is Il Fornaio.

The Derby is always a busy day for the Sheephead Bay sports bar, which has the races on a multi-screen display in the front and off-track betting stations for the risk-takers in the back.

"They eat, drink and gamble all day," said manager Sammy Soho.

For other OTB action, head to Hunter's Steak & Ale House. The Bay Ridge restaurant will have a big screen showing the race in addition to off-track betting.

"Everyone's in a good mood," said co-owner John Ryan.

As long as his horse wins, that is. Il Fornaio (2902 Emmons Ave. at 29th Street in Sheephead Bay, (718) 332-8494). For info, visit www.ilfornaio.com; Hunter's Steak & Ale House (9404 Fourth Ave. at 94th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 238-8899). For info, visit www.huntersteakhouse.net.

— with Tony Cella

A drinker's guide to the race itself

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

By the way, there's a race, too. If you can manage to put down that mint julep for 120 seconds and fix your eyes on the TV screen, you're in for one of the greatest spectacles in all of sports.

Only a few thousand people attended the first Kentucky Derby in 1875, but now hun-

dreds of thousands cram the infield and the rickety grandstand at Churchill Downs in Louisville for the big race, where fans sing a cleaned-up version of Stephen Foster's "My Old Kentucky Home" as the horses jog out to the starting gate. After the gates open, the horse that jumps to the lead automatically becomes the bar crowd favorite, but only rarely in thoroughbred racing does a horse go wire-to-wire.

Handicapping the field is always a nightmare at the Derby — mostly because the sheer size of the field has encouraged long shots over the years. But never count out the New York horse: Though no New Yorker has won the Derby since Funny Cide in 2003, this year's Empire State favorite, Eskendereya, is coming off a big win in our own Wood Memorial, New York's main Derby tuneup. He'll likely be the favorite.



Make a mint

The mint julep is the official drink of the Kentucky Derby, but do you know how to make one? William Crane, manager of the Bell House, shares his recipe:

INGREDIENTS
Crushed ice
1 oz. mint-steeped simple syrup
3 oz. bourbon
3-4 twists of mint
Splash of seltzer

DIRECTIONS
Put mint in the bottom of a mixing glass. Pour in simple syrup, seltzer and one ounce bourbon. Use a muddler to crush the mint leaves and mix the bourbon and syrup. Add the rest of the bourbon. Let stand for about three minutes. Strain into a cocktail glass filled with shaved ice. Garnish with a mint sprig.

EVENT

It's his story

A transgender beauty pageant is about to make "his-story."

On April 25, Brooklyn will crown the first-ever "Mr. Transman," with a pageant at the Knitting Factory in Williamsburg.

Though drag contests, gay pageants and transwoman competitions have been happening for years, transmen have been without a pageant of their own. "I tell the kids, 'When I was your age, we had butch and femme and that was it.' Now, the queer scene is much more diverse than it has ever been," said nightlife personality Murray Hill (pictured), who will emcee.

At the pageant, six contestants will compete in Platform, Swimsuit, Realness, Talent and Evening Wear. The winner will receive a cash prize and a photo spread in the seminal transman magazine, "Original Plumbing."

Mr. Transman pageant at the Knitting Factory (361 Metropolitan Ave., at Havensner Avenue, (347) 529-6696), April 25 at 8:30 pm. Tickets are \$12. — Elizabeth Dana

EVENT

Bloom county

Break out your kimono — Sakura Matsuri is back.

The annual celebration of Japanese culture will take over the Brooklyn Botanic Garden from May 1 to 2.

The weather may not fully cooperate (see page 9) but the weekend will still feature workshops including flower arranging, anime-inspired costume competitions and haiku poetry readings.

"It is the best of Japanese and Japanese-American culture here at the garden, with the stunning background of the cherry blossoms," said Kate Blumm, of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Among the more traditional offerings will be a performance by Dancejapan featuring Sachiko Ito — a staple at the festival for nearly 30 years — and taiko drumming by Taiko Masala and Soh Daiko.

For Japanese fashionistas, the festival will also host a high tea for "Victorian maidens, bobo bo-peeps, and Tokyo goth girls," as well as a costume fashion show to exhibit manga-inspired designs.

Sakura Matsuri at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave. at Crown Street in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7200) May 1 from 10 am to 6 pm and May 2 from 10 am to 7 pm. For info, visit www.bbpg.org. — Elizabeth Dana

MUSIC

Back to jazz

Howard Fishman has been in the studio so long, his fans may have feared he put down the guitar for good.

But finally, after 18 months of putting together three new albums, the Williamsburg jazz man is back where he belongs: on two Brooklyn stages, on consecutive nights.

This month, you can find Fishman at two of his stomping grounds: Pete's Candy Store in Williamsburg on April 29 and Barbies in Park Slope on April 30.

"They're like playing my living room," said Fishman, who leans on jazz, pop, gospel and country in his music. "They're never high-pressure shows, in a relaxed environment. I like to use them as places to do experimenting."

That will include pulling from his latest albums, which have backdrops in New Orleans, Romania and Brooklyn. All three are coming out this year, with the first — "Better Get Right," featuring Fishman backed by a New Orleans brass band — out next month.

Despite his usual frequency at these Brooklyn venues, no one show is the same. "Every one of my shows is pretty different," said the musician. "It's never the same band, never the same set list. I like to keep it fresh that way."

Three albums in one year will certainly help with that.

Howard Fishman at Pete's Candy Store (709 Lorimer St. near Richardson Street, (718) 302-3077) April 29 at 10 pm, and at Barbies (338 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue, (718) 965-9177) April 30 at 10 pm. — Meredith Deliso

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SUSAN ELLIOTT, NEW YORK POST

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HERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY April 23

Power SLAM

Apparently the term "dance" can be used loosely as it can also refer to people flying through the air dodging flying cinderblocks. Members of the STREB Dance Company test scientific principles with their bodies, as the name of the upcoming show, "Run Up Walls," suggests. Once again, they'll be defying gravity — and looking graceful doing it.

7 pm. STREB Lab for Action Mechanics (51 N. First St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 384-6491). Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for children).

SATURDAY April 24

Fourth time around

Andi Rae's fourth annual Earth Day event will bring lots of local artists together at Bar 4 to jam for the planet. A country singer herself, Rae has gathered a few similarly inspired musicians to join her — and even your drinking will go towards a good cause as Bar 4 will be donating a portion of the profits to Sustainable Harvest International.

6:30 pm. Bar 4 (444 Seventh Ave. at 15th Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9800).



SUNDAY April 25

Bald cure

Finally, there's a chance for your hair stop sitting around and actually do something to cure cancer. Participants in today's St. Baldrick's fundraiser raise money by agreeing to shave their heads — and since the event is at Ceol Pub on Smith Street, you know there'll be drinking involved. So far, St. Baldrick's has raised \$8 million this way, so get shaving.

2-7 pm. Ceol (191 Smith St. in Carroll Gardens, (888) 899-2253). www.stbaldricks.org.

TUESDAY April 27

Talkin' blues

We're all fascinated by the blues, but we don't have the time to make the trek down south. Fortunately, the new Live and Outspoken festival brings the best of Dixieland to us. This month, Mississippi-impromptu Jimmy "Duck" Holmes will play some Delta blues. And if that's not enough of a draw, the evening takes place in the home of Emmy-Award-winning writer/producer Tom Fontana.

7 pm. Address given upon ticket purchase. Visit www.65tarts.org to buy. Tickets are \$35.



THURSDAY April 29

Gay of' time

All you straight singles have had plenty of chances to get hooked up — so now it's time for Brooklyn gays and lesbians to party down, thanks to the "Big Gay Meatsup" at the Bell House. Organizers say there's a Hawaiian theme, but you won't have to pull out your ukulele in this crowd. If it's anything like the last bash, there'll be plenty of happy endings.

7 pm. Big Gay Meatsup at the Bell House (449 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus (718) 643-6510). Tickets are \$8. For info, visit www.bkhookup.com.

NIE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, APRIL 23

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL: Annual blooming of the amazing Japanese cherry trees. Brooklyn Botanic Garden (1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7220). www.bbog.org.

THEATER, "NIGHT MUST FALL": Emily Williams's psychological thriller. \$15 (\$13 seniors and children under 12, 6 pm. Heights Players (26 Willow Pl. between Jerome and State streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 237-2752). www.heightsplayers.org.

FILM, "THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH": Part of a Jean Renoir retrospective. \$12 (\$8 members). 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 pm. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129). www.bamrrc.org.

MUSIC, CHRIS MILLER SEXTET: 56-60 pm. Puppets Jazz Bar (481 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622). www.puppetsjazz.com.

ART, OPEN STUDIOS APRIL 2010: Art events at weekend. 6-9 pm. The Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation Space Program (20 Jay St. near Plymouth Street in Downtown, (718) 635-2244).

ART OPENING: New group show featuring the works of Paul Galiana, Hovey Brock and Robert Sant. 6 pm. Mural Garage Gallery (47 Bergen St. between Boerum Place and Smith Street in Cobble Hill, (718) 832-4353). www.muralgaragegallery.com.

THEATER, "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT": Presented by the FDR Theatre Guild. \$10. 7:30 pm. FDR HS (2800 20th Ave. in Bayside, (718) 621-8825). fdhs.schools.wire.net.

MPA THESE CONCERT: New Media Arts and Performance students meld the digital with live performance in a cutting-edge evening of student works. \$5, 7:30 pm. Kumbia Theater at Long Island University (DeKalb and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 488-1648). www.brooklyn.liu.edu/KumbiaTheater.

MUSIC, INLETS: \$10, 7:30 pm. Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400). www.unionhall.com.

MUSIC, FRANK AND NANCY MCCALL AND FRIENDS: Banjos, fiddles, mandolins and recorder tunes. \$10 (\$4 children). 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (33 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972). www.bosc.org.

DANCE, "AIR FESTIVAL" — GIRL MEAT: Victoria Libertine channels Bathory's essence with hilarity, a dose of camp and a hint of insanity. \$12 (12 in advance). 8 pm. Brooklyn Arts Exchange (421 Fifth Ave. at Eighth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-0018). www.bax.org.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selections from Haydn, Stravinsky, Bartok, and Dvořák. \$35 (\$30 seniors, \$15 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old



Dance fever: Catch "Tap Kids" at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts on April 25.

Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083). www.bargemusic.org.

COMEDY NIGHT: Hosted by Nick Turner (College Humor) and Jason Seaver (DC Comedy Festival). Free. 8 pm. Copo4 (64 Greenpoint Ave. between Franklin and West streets in Greenpoint, (917) 807-6045). www.myspace.com/copo4.

THEATER, "COP PIECE": Serial drama about a beat cop and a detective on a stake out. \$10 donation. 8 pm. Storefront Space (94 Norman Ave. at Manhattan Avenue in Greenpoint, www.storefrontspace.org).

MUSIC, KYLOPHONE PEOPLE: Unique blend of minimalist trance music, down and dirty blues. \$10. 10:30 pm. Jolopy (315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214). www.jolopy.biz.

CIVIC CALENDAR

MON, APRIL 26
Community Board 6, Public Safety and Environmental Protection Committee. 6:30 pm. New York Methodist Hospital (506 Sixth St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 780-3000).

TUES, APRIL 27
Community Board 1 Land Use Committee. Monthly meeting. 6:30 pm. Community Board 1 office (435 Graham Ave. between Fort and Richardson streets in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009).

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Calendar@cnlglobal.com

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Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

SAT, APRIL 24

OUTDOORS AND TOURS
CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL: See Friday, April 23.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "NIGHT MUST FALL": 8 pm. See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "THE VIGIL OR THE GUIDED CRADLE": A play about torture. \$18. 8 pm. The Brick 575 Metropolitan Ave. between Union Avenue and Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 352-3101). www.bricktheater.com.

MUSIC, ANDI RAE'S EARTH DAY CELEBRATION: Singer and environmentalist Andi Rae Healy hosts her annual benefit. 6:30 pm. Bar 4 (444 Seventh Ave. at 15th Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9800). www.myspace.com/bar4.

THEATER, "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT": 7:30 pm. See Friday, April 23.

DANCE, HIGH FREQUENCY: Selected to perform overseas in the ABUNDANCE 2010 Festival, the dance company presents a "Show for Sweden" concert to help raise funds for travel. \$15 (\$7 for kids). 8 pm. CAVE Art Space (58 Grand St. between Kent and Wythe avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 388-6760). www.highfrequencylengths.org.

MUSIC, FRANK & NANCY MCCALL & FRIENDS: Folk music. \$10 (\$4 kids). 8 pm. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (33 Prospect Park West at Second Street in Park Slope, (718) 768-2972). www.bosc.org.

DANCE, "AIR FESTIVAL" — GIRL MEAT: 8 pm. See Friday, April 23.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: 8 pm. See Friday, April 23.

MUSIC, BKLYN SOUL RENAISSANCE: Soul, funk and hip hop. \$10. 8 pm. Bushwick Tavern (471 Dekalb Ave. at Kent Avenue in Clinton Hill, (347) 606-9700). www.bushwicktavern.com.

THEATER, "COP PIECE": 8 pm. See Friday, April 23.

MUSIC, "SWING HOUSE": A costumed ball with live swing! sounds by authentic vintage jazz bands, re-bop! DJs remixing and re-inventing vintage grooves, and more. \$15 with RSVP + themed dress. \$20 door. \$10 after 12am. 9 pm. The Green Building (450 Union St. near Bond Street in Carroll Gardens). www.gemindandcorpo.com/events.html.

See 9 DAYS on page 8



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King of the Hill

Manny Howard sheds light on his adventures in farming in new book

By Elizabeth Dana
for the Brooklyn Paper

Manny Howard has been raising chickens in his Ditmars Park backyard farm since 2007. But he's not only doing it for the meat. Inspired by the "locavore movement" that encourages eating locally grown food, Howard took it one step further to live off only what he could grow in his backyard

BOOKS

Manny Howard will read from *"My Empire of Dirt: How One Man Turned His Big-City Backyard into a Farm"* at Book Court (163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 675-3677) on April 27 at 7 pm. Sunny's Bar (253 Corner St. between Beard and Reed streets in Red Hook, (718) 625-8211) on May 2 at 3 pm, and Greenlight Book Store (684 Fulton St. in Portland Ave. in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200) on May 13 at 7:30 pm.

for an entire month. He did it — and got a book out of it, too.

"My Empire of Dirt: How One Man Turned His Big-City Backyard into a Farm" chronicles how Howard converted his urban backyard into a vegetable garden, chicken coop, rabbit hutch and duck pond.

His summer was filled with demanding physical labor, chasing rabbits and, of course, castrating chickens.



He is the egg man: Ditmars Park writer Manny Howard turned his backyard into a farm, complete with chickens and the inevitable eggs.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

SALES AND MARKETS

PARK SLOPE GREENMARKET: Brooklyn's answer to Union Square. 9 am-4 pm. Grand Army Plaza (Union Street at Flatbush Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 790-7050, www.parkslopefarmersmarket.com).

PS 321 FLEA MARKET: Free. 9 am-3 pm. PS 321 schoolyard (Seventh Avenue and First Street in Park Slope, www.parkslopefarmersmarket.com).

FLEA MARKET: Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit holds a flea market. Free. 9 am-4 pm. Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit (8117 Bay Parkway at 82nd Street in Bensonhurst, (718) 837-0472).

FLEA MARKET: A benefit for Greenwood Playground. Free. 9 am-3 pm. Greenwood Playground (E Fifth Street at Fort Hamilton Park at Fort Hamilton Parkway at Windsor Terrace, (718) 497-3490, friendsofgreenwoodplayground.blogspot.com).

FLEA MARKET: A benefit for PS 102. 10 am-3 pm. PS 102 (71st Street between Third Avenue and Ridge Boulevard in Bay Ridge, (347) 276-3672, PS102.org).

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Free. Noon-8 pm. Artists and Fleas (127 St. Sixth St. between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, www.artistsandfleas.com).

OTHER

HEALTH, FREE HIV TESTING: Free. 10 am. Sizem Presbyterian Church (245 Jefferson Ave. at Park Slope, (917) 586-5208, www.hiv-test.org).

TALK, "JESUS" WITH REV. OSAGYE SEKOU: A look at the historical Jesus and the tradition that emerged around him. 11 am. Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture (53 Prospect Park West at Second Avenue in Park Slope, (917) 586-5208, www.bscny.org).

TALK, "POETS AT THE TOP OF THE HILL": Read the poetry and prose of writers known and unknown, recite your own words, create new works and discuss them with the audience. Free. Noon-1 pm. Fort Greene Park (DeKalb Avenue and Cumberland Street in Fort Greene, www.whonow.com).

FILM, "TELENA AND HER MEN ELENA ET LES HOMMES": Part of a Jean Renoir retrospective. \$12 (8 members), 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129, www.bam.org).

ART, OPEN STUDIOS APRIL 2010: 2-6 pm. See Friday, April 23.

TALK, "PICASSO, MATISSE AND AFRICA": The influence of African art on Pablo Picasso and of North African Islamic art on Henri Matisse. Free. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

AUTISM AWARENESS: Second annual Night out Lights on for Autism fundraiser. Free. 6-8 pm. Canamie Park (Corner of 84th Street and Seaview Avenue in Canarsie, (718) 251-0527, www.theshineblog.org).

MOONLIGHT BROOKLYN: Party with classic cars and motorcycles — plus a screening of "On Any Given Day," the motorcycle documentary featuring Sean McCue. \$1 suggested donation. 7 pm. Jupiter's Motorcycles (119 Eighth St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 788-2585, www.jupiters-ny.com).

MFA THESS CONCERT: 7:30 pm. See Friday, April 23.

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL: See Friday, April 23.

TOUR, GREEN WOOD CEMETERY WALKING TOUR: Featuring bird life. Civil War era. 10 am. Green-Wood Cemetery (Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Sunset Park, (718) 768-7300, www.green-wood.com).

PERFORMANCE THEATER, "NIGHT MUST FALL": 2 pm. See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "THE VIGIL OR THE GUIDED CRADLE": 8 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selections from Schoenberg and Rachmaninov. 8 pm. The Choral Trio. \$30 (30 seniors, \$15 students). 3 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083, www.bargemusic.com).

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT WITH BOLD SELECTIONS: Featuring The Grand Orchestra. \$20. 3 pm. St. Ann's Church (157 Montague St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 707-1411).

MUSIC, THE MOOSE MEER SPRING SPECTACULAR: An afternoon of shopping, barbeque, and live music. \$15 (\$10 in advance). 3-8 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 643-6101, www.thebellhouse.com).

MUSIC, THE TWENTY-FIFTH CENT OPERA OF SAN FRANCISCO: Featuring new works for the tiny stage by landscape artist Erin Courtney, theater architect Yelena Gluzman and world construction worker Kristin Korman. 7 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com).

THEATER, "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT": 2 pm. See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "SWINGIN' AT JACK'S": Suspended Cirque presents a night of 1940s-themed dance music and circus acts. \$25. 8 pm. Galapagos Space (161 W. Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500, www.galapagospace.com).

MUSIC, STEPHANE WREMBEL: Playing a mix of traditional Django repertoire and original interpretations of standards. 8 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com).

SALES AND MARKETS PS 321 FLEA MARKET: 9 am-3 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

GREENMARKET AND MARKERS MARKET: Crafts and produce under the same roof. 10 am-5 pm. Old American Can Factory (232 Third St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus, www.communitymarkets.biz).

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Noon-8 pm. See Saturday, April 24.



Rodeo town: Dawn Landen and crew bring their "Sweet Heart Rodeo" to the Bell House on April 23.

at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129, www.bam.org).

ART, OPEN STUDIOS APRIL 2010: 2-6 pm. See Friday, April 23.

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TOUR, GREEN WOOD CEMETERY WALKING TOUR: Featuring bird life. Civil War era. 10 am. Green-Wood Cemetery (Fifth Avenue and 25th Street in Sunset Park, (718) 768-7300, www.green-wood.com).

PERFORMANCE THEATER, "NIGHT MUST FALL": 2 pm. See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "THE VIGIL OR THE GUIDED CRADLE": 8 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: Selections from Schoenberg and Rachmaninov. 8 pm. The Choral Trio. \$30 (30 seniors, \$15 students). 3 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083, www.bargemusic.com).

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT WITH BOLD SELECTIONS: Featuring The Grand Orchestra. \$20. 3 pm. St. Ann's Church (157 Montague St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 707-1411).

MUSIC, THE MOOSE MEER SPRING SPECTACULAR: An afternoon of shopping, barbeque, and live music. \$15 (\$10 in advance). 3-8 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 643-6101, www.thebellhouse.com).

MUSIC, THE TWENTY-FIFTH CENT OPERA OF SAN FRANCISCO: Featuring new works for the tiny stage by landscape artist Erin Courtney, theater architect Yelena Gluzman and world construction worker Kristin Korman. 7 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com).

THEATER, "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT": 2 pm. See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "SWINGIN' AT JACK'S": Suspended Cirque presents a night of 1940s-themed dance music and circus acts. \$25. 8 pm. Galapagos Space (161 W. Street in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500, www.galapagospace.com).

MUSIC, STEPHANE WREMBEL: Playing a mix of traditional Django repertoire and original interpretations of standards. 8 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com).

SALES AND MARKETS PS 321 FLEA MARKET: 9 am-3 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

GREENMARKET AND MARKERS MARKET: Crafts and produce under the same roof. 10 am-5 pm. Old American Can Factory (232 Third St. between Third and Fourth avenues in Gowanus, www.communitymarkets.biz).

ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Noon-8 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

OTHER

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION: Featuring the traveling maritime and nature museum and lots of activities. Free. 1 pm. Erie Basin Park (1 Beard St. at Otsego Street in Red Hook, (347) 224-5828, enviro-mediamobile.blogspot.com).

READING, "OVER HERE — NEW YORK CITY DURING WORLD WAR II": Author Lorraine Delia discusses New York's role on the home front during World War II. Free. 1:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

FILM, "FRENCH CANNON": Part of a Jean Renoir retrospective. \$12 (8 members), 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129, www.bam.org).

CANCER BENEFIT: Raise money for children with cancer by cutting off all your hair. 2-7 pm. Cool 191 Smith St. at Carroll Gardens, (888) 879-2253, www.cool191.com).

READING, OLIVER JEFFERS AND CARIN BERGER: Authors of "The Heart and the Bottle" and "Forever Wild." 4-5 pm. Powerhouse Books (37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 646-5870, www.powerhousebooks.com).

DISCUSSION, "THE STATE OF JEWIS IN THE JEWISH STATE": A panel debate with Susan Aranoff, Gershon Gorenberg, Rabbi Jiri Rejcek and Rabbi Avi Shafan. \$5. 4 pm. East Midwood Jewish Center (1625 Ocean Ave. between avenues K and L in Avenelwood, (718) 339-0230, doth2444.com).

FILM, "SWAMP WATER": Part of a Jean Renoir retrospective. \$12 (8 members), 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100. BAM Rose Cinema (30 Lafayette Ave. in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4129, www.bam.org).

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MUSIC, GREG GARING: Traditional country and bluegrass music. 8 pm. Bill Monroe meets PJ Harvey and Tricky. Free. 7 pm. Kittinging Factory (361 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6696, ny.kittingingfactory.com).

MUSIC, ARTURO D'FARRILL: Solo. \$10. 7-8 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (481 Fifth Ave. at 11th Street in Park Slope, (718) 499-2622, www.puppetsjazzbar.com).

MUSIC, JAZZ: Featuring performances by LUI students. Free. 7 pm. Kumble Theater at Long Island University (Daleville and Flatbush avenues in Downtown, (718) 488-1624, www.brooklyn.liu.edu/KumbleTheater).

FILM, "I KNEW IT WAS YOU": Screening of the story of John Casale. Part of a PS 102 fundraiser. \$15. 8 pm. PS 102. Flatbush Theater (Prospect Park W. at 15th Street in Park Slope, www.ps102.org).

MUSIC, TAO SEER BAND: With PAPER BIRD. Folk, rock and pop. \$5. 8 pm. Puppet's Jazz Bar (481 Fifth Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369, www.brooklynrocknroll.com).

MUSIC, ROOTS AND RUKUS: Weekly American folk showcase. \$5. 9 pm. Jolopy 115 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodlawn Street in Williamsburg, (718) 395-3214, www.jolopy.biz).

THURS. APRIL 29

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL: See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "THE VIGIL OR THE GUIDED CRADLE": 8 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

PS 8 ANNUAL SPRING AUCTION: Silent and live auction. plus dinner. \$50 in advance. \$65 (at the door). 7 pm. Plymouth Church (715 Hicks St. in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 623-7220, www.ps8.org).

READING, ROSEMARY LAIRD AND JAMES HUYMANS: Co-authors of "Take Your Oxygen First." Free. 7 pm. Bar Ridge Center (4935 Fourth Ave. between Bay Ridge and Coney Island in Bay Ridge, (718) 807-1070, www.psgdc.org).

THE SECRET GARDEN BENEFIT PARTY: Celebrate the arrival of spring with a night of surprise performances. music, dance and a silent auction. \$85 (\$75 in advance). 7-10 pm. DUMBO Arts Center (30 Washington St. between Fulton and Water streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 694-0831, www.dumbocentercenter.org).

TALK, UGLY DUCKLING: Three poets with new and forthcoming books on Ugly Duckling Press will read from their new collections. Free. 7 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch (Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100).

THEATER, "THE SIGN IN SIDNEY": Buster's window by Lorraine Hansberry. Free. 8 pm. Irontide (822 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233, www.irontide.org).

MUSIC, THE S.I.N. DRUM & BASS: Plus live performances by Tyson Kruse, Raw Action Sound Systems, Trifecta, U.I.B. 2, Stress "The Glamour Kid" and Northside. 9:30 pm. (S15 in advance). 9:30 pm. U.I.B. 2 (822 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Fort Greene, (718) 855-3388, www.trifecta.org).

MUSIC, RAMA SANCAR: Mix of rock and alternative. 10 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 965-9177, www.barbesbrooklyn.com).

DANCE PARTY: The crew from Philly's legendary "Staleout" parties hosts this blowout. Free. 10 pm. Trophy Bar (331 Broadway at Kean Street in Williamsburg, (718) 965-9177, www.trophysbar.com).

MUSIC, MICHEL QUARTET (CHARLIE BURHAM, JOHN HERBERT, BILLY MINZ): The four-piece performs Part of the Underberg Works weekly jazz series. 11 pm. Koro (667 Fifth Ave. between 19th and 20th streets in Park Slope, (718) 285-9425, www.myspace.com/undergroundworkzjazz).

FRI, APRIL 30

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL: See Friday, April 23.

THEATER, "THE VIGIL OR THE GUIDED CRADLE": 8 pm. See Saturday, April 24.

MUSIC, WESTBROOK JOHNSON'S THREE ROADS: See Saturday, April 24.

ally learn what it means to grow food and raise livestock in an urban setting.

But animal deaths, a near breakdown of his marriage, a tornado — the first to hit Brooklyn in over a hundred years — and a severed finger tested his physical, mental and emotional strengths.

"I didn't have any idea that this thing would grab me by the ears and pull me into the ground with it," said Howard. "It was certainly all-consuming, but it was never a question that I would finish."

Nearly three years later, "The Farm" is still functioning, albeit on a smaller scale — more low-maintenance chickens have replaced the now-deceased rabbits, for example.

The experience made him realize that the locavore movement falls short.

Knowing the farmer and being the farmer are two totally different things," he said.

BAND, BEN GERSTEIN QUARTET: Part of the Second Annual Tomlinson Festival. \$10 (suggested). 8 pm. Beam Music Studio (168 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, Beams Music, (718) 624-2003, www.beammusic.com).

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: With Steven Beck. \$20 (30 seniors, \$15 students). 8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street and Furman Street in DUMBO, (718) 624-2083, www.bargemusic.com).

MUSIC, THE FORBURY SERIES: \$10. 10 pm. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 643-6101, www.thebellhouse.com).

COMEDY NIGHT: 8 pm. See Friday, April 23.

MUSIC, ANTERAM. ROPE, RADICAL DADS, THE MADAS: \$10. 8 pm. Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhall.com).

DANCE, "THANKS FOR NOTHING": Performance by Akshai Bhandari. Part of AIR Festival. \$15 (\$12 in advance). 8 pm. Barbes (376 Ninth St. at Sixth Avenue in Park Slope,



Panic at the Botanic!

On the eve of festival, buds are dropping like flies

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden will host the greatest and most colorful cherry celebration in the nation next weekend, but there's a major problem — the blossoms are wilting!

A full two weekends before the annual Sakura Matsuri festival — a Japanese-themed "rite of passage" into spring — the Garden's signature cherry trees looked great, their light pink blossoms in full bloom.

"But that small, perfect window where the Kwanzan trees are picture perfect will be long closed by the May 1 event. And the rest of the Garden's vast array of species have already popped their cherry blossoms."

"I'm literally panicking for them about the timing of the festival," said a landscape architect who refused to give her name because she occasionally works with the Crown Heights house. The architect was in the Garden on Sunday and liked what she saw — until she looked at the calendar.

"These buds look beautiful now, but they won't be perfect by May 1," she said. "It's a shame. They guessed wrong."

Perhaps, but the fault lies not with the Garden's bud pickers, but with the rigors of putting on the most important cherry blossom festival this side of the Potomac, with participants coming from as far away as Japan and Manhattan.

Because there's so much planning involved, Botanic Garden officials select the date for the next year's Sakura Matsuri right at the close of the current event. The selection of May 1 and 2 was actually made last spring.

Beyond that, the Garden merely hopes for the best — and Mother Nature has proven to be an unreliable ally. If the spring air gets too hot too soon, the trees blossom early; too cold and unpredictable weather can delay the petals' goodbye. This year, there was rain, warmth and chill — not a good combination.

"We're losing petals," said Mark Fisher, director of horticulture for the Garden. "But that's just what Mother Nature does."

The good news, Fisher added, is that the two-day, 60-event Festival is fun even if the trees are completely dead.

But some folks can't get over those wilting Kwanzans.

"Seeing how nice it looks now, I question what will be left for the celebration," said Crown Heights resident Ben Rubin on Sunday. "I'm worried for myself, for my family, for the garden and for the reputation of our borough."

"Look, anyone who actually cares about whether the buds will be 'perfect' or 'just miss their peak' is missing the point of Sakura Matsuri," said Phil Marriott of Park Slope. "The whole thing is a Zen exercise, so to try to predict perfection is a violation of that spirit. It's like catching the perfect wave in Maui."

Sakura Matsuri at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave. at Montgomery Street in Crown Heights, (718) 623-7200]. Activities on May 1 and 2 begin at 10 a.m. Free. For info, visit www.bbg.org.

CO-OP...

Continued from page 1

But one lawyer with expertise in corporation law — who did not want to have his name tied to his quick, probono consultation with a reporter on deadline — said that the trademark did not necessarily nullify a Park Slope Food Coop legal challenge.

"You can't claim rights to something that is legal," the lawyer said. "Can you trademark something that violates the law?"

The lawyer noted that the law in question was designed specifically for food producers, marketers and consumers.

"It's there so that a co-op corporation — such as the Food Coop — can have this

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CO-OP SMACKDOWN!

One offers name-brand leather, the other sells low-priced lentils — but both Barneys Co-op and the Park Slope Food Coop use the same vaguely Socialist word to describe themselves. So how do these two shops really compare? They can't even agree on spelling! Find out in our first ever cooperative comparison.

— Tony Cella

Barneys Co-op	Name of alleged co-op	Park Slope Food Coop
No refunds	Willingness to co-operate	Co-workers actually walk your groceries home
Straight out of "Sex and the City"	Look of the place	A supermarket in Brattleboro, Vermont
Snooty	Worker attitude	Self-righteous about kale
Sharp sport coats and stylish dresses	Employee attire	Reflective vests
Golden Goose Boot, \$1,475	Most overpriced item	Organic baby radishes, \$7.15 per pound
"I can't talk. Call our corporate office."	Employee reaction to our questions	"I can't talk without attending a General Meeting, which needs to be announced three weeks in advance so we can get this conversation on the agenda."

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The Brooklyn Paper

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

PARENT

FAMILY CALENDAR

FRI, APRIL 23

11:30 am: Storytime with Emily, Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themoxiespot.com].

4 pm: Arts and crafts. Free. Pacific Library [25 Fourth Ave. at Pacific Street in Boerum Hill, (718) 236-4086].

SAT, APRIL 24

10:30 am: Story time for kids. Greenlight Bookstore [886 Fulton St. between South El and First Ave. in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0003, bookstore.brooklyn.blogger.com].

11 am-4 pm: Fifth Avenue Family Festival. Featuring crafts, games and giveaways. Free. Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3703, www.albionfamilyfestival.com].

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11:30 am-12:15 pm: "Musical Stars" with guitarist Gina Samardis, 518, sittings \$2. Between Nevins Street and between Nevins Street and Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (718) 855-7808.

12:30 pm and 2 pm: "The Secret Garden... of Monsters!" Celebrate great works of children's literature. \$5. Brooklyn Lyceum [227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816, www.monsterliterature.com, brooklynlyceum.com].

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Jack and the Beanstalk." The classic children's story — with marionettes! \$7 children, \$8 adults. Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391, puppetworks.org].

1-4 pm: Earth Day celebration. Free. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400, www.prospectpark.org/audubon].

1 pm: "Harry the Dirty Dog." Musical based on the classic children's book by Gene Zion. Free. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Plaza in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100].

1:30 pm: Science power hour. Learn about nature. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400, www.prospectpark.org/audubon].

3 pm: "Pistachio, a Brooklyn Girl Made From Trash." Musical about recycling and sustainability. Free. Sell Hip [283 Grand Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 423-8538].

SUN, APRIL 25

12-4 pm: Companion animal clinic day and adoptions. Free. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church [326 59th St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 492-9200, www.citiesonline.org].

12:30 pm and 2 pm: "The Secret Garden... of Monsters!" See Saturday, April 24.

1:30 pm: Science power hour. See Saturday, April 24.

2 pm: Tap Kids. Eight of the nation's most talented young tap dancers. Hip, contemporary, and uplifting. \$6. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500].

MON, APRIL 26

1:30 pm: Babies and Books. Free. Dyer Library [802 13th Ave. at 82nd Street in Dyker Heights, (718) 748-6261, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org].

TUES, APRIL 27

10-45 am: Babies and Books. Free. Cinnelli Library [380 Washington Ave. between Lafayette and Greene avenues in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-8713, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org].

11:30 am: Singalong with Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themoxiespot.com].

WED, APRIL 28

1 pm: Storytime with Emily. See Friday, April 23.

THURS, APRIL 29

11 am: Dance around with Nae. Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and

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12:30 pm and 2 pm: "The Secret Garden... of Monsters!" See Saturday, April 24.

1:30 pm: Science power hour. See Saturday, April 24.

2 pm: Tap Kids. Eight of the nation's most talented young tap dancers. Hip, contemporary, and uplifting. \$6. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500].

MON, APRIL 26

1:30 pm: Babies and Books. Free. Dyer Library [802 13th Ave. at 82nd Street in Dyker Heights, (718) 748-6261, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org].

TUES, APRIL 27

10-45 am: Babies and Books. Free. Cinnelli Library [380 Washington Ave. between Lafayette and Greene avenues in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-8713, www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org].

11:30 am: Singalong with Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and

Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themoxiespot.com].

WED, APRIL 28

1 pm: Storytime with Emily. See Friday, April 23.

THURS, APRIL 29

11 am: Dance around with Nae. Moxie Spot [81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and

Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 923-9710, themoxiespot.com].

FRI, APRIL 30

11:30 am: Story time with Emily. See Friday, April 23.

12:30 pm and 2:30 pm: "Jack and the Beanstalk." The classic children's story — with marionettes! \$7 children, \$8 adults. Puppetworks [338 Sixth Ave. at Fourth Street in Park Slope, (718) 965-3391, puppetworks.org].

1-4 pm: Earth Day celebration. Free. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400, www.prospectpark.org/audubon].

1 pm: "Harry the Dirty Dog." Musical based on the classic children's book by Gene Zion. Free. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Plaza in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100].

1:30 pm: Science power hour. Learn about nature. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400, www.prospectpark.org/audubon].

3 pm: "Pistachio, a Brooklyn Girl Made From Trash." Musical about recycling and sustainability. Free. Sell Hip [283 Grand Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 423-8538].

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'Labor' pains

Carroll Gardens development is protested by union workers

By Gary Bulso
for The Brooklyn Paper

A controversial Carroll Gardens development continues to be a flashpoint for protests, with union officials this week blasting a contractor on the site for exploiting his non-union workers.

On Tuesday morning, about 40 members of the carpenter's union picketed the project, located at Second Place and Smith Street, where a 48-unit, seven-story residential building has topped out above the

Carroll Street station. "This contractor is undercutting the area standard wages and benefits," said Andres Puerta, a representative for the District Council of Carpenters union, which claims that R&B Drywall, a subcontractor on the project, pays workers \$10-\$18 an hour, without benefits.

The union rate for the same work is \$42 an hour, plus benefits, Puerta said. Howard Schneider said he had no intention on

changing the practices of his 25-year-old business — which pays \$20-\$25 per hour, he said.

"We're a non-union shop, and they think that because everyone doesn't pay union wages, everyone is underpaid," he said. "The owner can't pay the union's exorbitant prices."

Moreover, Schneider said, he's under no legal obligation to pay union scale.

Puerta said more protests are planned, but it is



Hundreds of union laborers rallied outside a controversial development project on Smith Street, claiming that workers on the project are underpaid.

unclear what impact, if any, they will have on hiring practices. He insisted the issue is not about union versus non-union labor.

"The goal here is to demonstrate what we feel are exploitative working conditions — whether the owners or contractors change their mind, that's up to them," he said.

The building at the corner of Smith Street and Second Place has been controversial from the get-go.

In 2007, residents protested the proposed building's size, claiming it overwhelms the low-rise neighborhood. In the wake of those protests, Carroll Gardens was rezoned in 2008, but a city panel determined that enough of the 70-foot building's foundation had been poured to allow work to continue — even though the zoning change now caps buildings at 55 feet.



HELP SAVE THIS DOG: Walter, a pit bull puppy, was discovered on Easter Sunday in Park Slope — but unlike the religious figure who allegedly rose from the dead, he may not be resurrected without your help.

Walter is one sick puppy

He needs your help now!

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

Walter, the severely injured pitbull pup of Park Slope, is off life support — but he still needs your help!

After an outpouring of support from all corners of the globe, Walter's health has stabilized, but his owners say the bills for his care will continue to mount.

"The swelling in his feet has gone down," said Kerman Juska, one of Walter's five adopted owners who all work at the Fifth Avenue bar Southpaw in Park Slope. "His skin is healing and the scabs are falling off, though fur falls off with it too. But he's already starting to get baby hair back."

The poor pup has endured quite an ideal to finally have his health stabilize. Walter was discovered on Easter Sunday at 15th Street and Third Avenue by Alex Darsey, who lives nearby. After inquiring about where this pitbull puppy had come from, a neighbor told Darsey that he had just seen a car pull up, ditch the dog, and peel off.

Walter's heartless previous owners had left him in a sorry state. The two- or three-month-old sick puppy had an extreme case of mange and was severely malnourished and dehydrated.

But according to Walter's collective owners — a group of five friends who all work at Southpaw on Fifth Avenue between Sterling and St. Johns places — that was the least of the pup's worries.

"It appears that his previous owners used some sort of chemical — like bleach or ammonia — in a cruel and misguided effort to treat the mange," his owners wrote in an online post.

"He was like an open sore when we found him," added Kerman Juska, who is also one of the dog's caretakers and a DJ who runs the awesome "Chances With Wolves" radio show. "He didn't have any fur on his legs. He looks like a burn victim."

Juska and his compatriots doped the dog up with antibiotics and anti-parasite meds, as well as baths to soothe his raw and inflamed flesh.

"After a few days of baths, good meals and lots of love and attention from his new family, Walter seemed to be doing really well," Walter's caregivers wrote.

But his improving health was short-lived.

On April 11, Walter began ignoring food, and his temperature and electrolytes went into sharp decline. According to Juska, his body temperature was in fact so low that it didn't even register on the veterinarian's thermometer. He was then put in a doggy-incubator of sorts,

and given a canine IV.

His mange is so bad that he no longer has his fur to act as an immune defense," his owners wrote. "His body is like a sponge for bacteria and infection, and he is so weak that he cannot fight it on his own."

Normally, a puppy with a healthy immune system can fight off [the mange], Juska added. "But he didn't get food and wasn't able to fight it — his stomach got upset and that's what got him sick again."

Still, Walter fights on. But as he slowly recovers in doggy intensive care, his owners now have to cope with the fact that his emergency treatment costs loads of cash.

"We're all working poor," Juska said. "This is a totally unforeseen expense."

Juska added that the bill from just two days of inpatient treatment at the veterinary emergency clinic on Warren Street between Smith and Court streets came to around \$2,000. The veterinarians there are doing everything in their power to keep Walter in good health, and have come to adore the dog as much as his owners — but until universal pet health care gets passed, the bills will keep piling up.

Fortunately, Walter has been swamped with donations, and Juska said that they are likely approaching the sum necessary for Walter's care. He also promised that all donations would go towards the pup's care and that any extra funds would be donated to a pet-related charity. And when — and if — Walter makes it out, he'll be welcomed with open arms into their home.

So Walter's new owners are soliciting donations to get the pup through this heart-wrenching ordeal.

"We were looking at each other [in the clinic] saying 'How are we going to handle this?'" Juska said. "But once you embrace the fact that you got this great community in Brooklyn in general — it's helped out a lot."

But Walter still has a long road to recovery — and remains in a fragile state. But Juska said that he had begun to think that it wasn't just the money that kept Walter alive.

The moral support and energy — and I'm not usually spooky like this — but I really think it has made a huge difference," Juska said. "He went from having no body care for him to have people from all over the world care."

Donations for Walter, the severely traumatized puppy of Park Slope, can be made through savealittle.blogspot.com.

OPERA...

Continued from page 1

What he didn't expect was to be fired — an replaced — just minutes before his acclaimed recital.

"After the show, people came to me and said, 'That man's not a tenor, he's a bass!'" Lamonarca told us. "How could [Mancusi] be so blind?" Or, more appropriately, tone deaf?

This is where the dispute becomes a classic case of he sang, she sang.

Mancusi wouldn't go into details about Lamonarca's request to be paid for his volunteer work, but he did deny the most heinous of accusations.

"I have no idea what he's

talking about — it was a world-class tenor," Mancusi said. "He sang everything he was supposed to sing. We don't want to afflict ourselves with people like him — it became a very poisonous atmosphere."

Regardless, Lamonarca's taking the war to court. He claims that there was a verbal agreement that he be paid monthly, and that he was fired for writing up a contract.

"I must be recognized for my work," Lamonarca said. "Until then, I will no longer represent this museum, which I have loved, and been fascinated by, for years."

Stay tuned for Act II of this tragic-comedy.

CONEY...

Continued from page 1

The slabs will have a tan hue and be textured to resemble pebbles and sand, said John Natoli, the Parks De-

partment's chief engineer.

He added that concrete will be more durable than wood and last "100 years" instead of 30 or 40 years

— but fans of the classic wood planks were having none of it.

"Not only is it going to be ugly, it's going to be unbearably hot," said Brighton Beach resident Ida Sanoff. "People are not going to be able to walk barefoot over

that. They're going to burn their feet."

Others said it's not a boardwalk without the boards.

"It's not supposed to be a concrete walk," said Marion Cleaver, chairwoman of Community Board 13.

The traditional wood planks will be a key component on the Boardwalk near the area's traditional amusement area, from West 10th Street to Stillwell Avenue.

After the summer, Parks will examine the wear and tear on the Boardwalk to determine which materials — the concrete in Brighton Beach, the wood by the amusements or some synthetic lumber planks on Slopechase Pier — hold up best.

That material will be used if additional portions of the Boardwalk are replaced.



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The \$3M man

Goldstein accepts Ratner offer and will leave Yards footprint by May 7

By Stephen Brown
The Brooklyn Paper

Daniel Goldstein is now the \$3-million man.

Goldstein bought his apartment in this building on Pacific Street just before Atlantic Yards was announced.

After nearly seven years of steadfast opposition to Bruce Ratner's Atlantic Yards — a personal and political protest that made

him the last resident of the project footprint — Goldstein accepted the lucrative offer on Wednesday and will leave the project's footprint by May 7.

The move comes after he was left with no other options once the state condemned his Pacific Street

property via eminent domain last month. Goldstein paid \$590,000 for the three-bedroom unit in 2003 — months before Ratner presented his 16-sky-scraper development, commercial and basketball arena plan that called on the state to evict residents through its

condemnation power. "I'm going to be paid for it," he said. "Of course, I would rather the neighborhood be restored." But Goldstein's big payday came with caveats — which also apply to his wife. "He must withdraw from all lawsuits and not file any others against the Atlantic Yards project."

He cannot actively oppose the project — or as Goldstein explained it, "I can't lie down in front of the bulldozers, which I wasn't going to do anyway."

He can no longer be the spokesman of Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn, but will remain a member. Goldstein's lawyer, Mike Rikon, explained that the sticking point of during two hours of negotiations on Wednesday in the chambers of Justice Abraham Gerges in Downtown was Ratner's demand that Goldstein relinquish his right to speak out against the project.

In the end, Ratner backed away because "Goldstein] would have walked away from any offer if he lost his First Amendment rights," Rikon said. The Goldstein deal comes only two days after project opponents lost their main

'Potato Chip' critics give promoters an earful

By Joe Maniscalco
for The Brooklyn Paper

The few concert promoters who actually showed up for last Friday's public walking tour of Asser Levy Seaside Park heard a lot from the Parks Department about how great Borough President Markowitz's plan to build a new \$64-million amphitheater inside the park is going to be — but it wasn't all music to everyone's ears.

Critics who view the amphitheater as nothing more than a commercial land grab of public space lambasted the project for more than an hour, frustrating Parks officials and making it hard for them to make their sales pitch.

The agency is eager to land a potential promoter as soon as possible because it can not complete a required Environmental Assessment of the proposed 8,000-seat amphitheater without the operator's input.

Temperatures immediately started to flare during a short pre-tour presentation. Amphitheater critics insisted that the community is already suffering because of Markowitz's annual Seaside Summer Concert Series, and said opponent Arlene Brenner, the area simply "can't stand" an influx of more concert-goers.

The animosity later boiled over during the tour of the park, located on Surf Avenue between Ocean Parkway and West Fifth Street, when Sam Kimball, a representative for Marquee Concerts turned on Brenner.

"All we've heard for an hour is you," cried Kimball, whose company specializes in music and comedy shows. "Enough."

Marquee Concerts was actually one of just three concert promoters that took Friday's walking tour, according to the Parks Department, and Kimball later said that he wasn't sure his company is "even interested" in the amphitheater.

If built, the new amphitheater — officially known as the "Coney Center" — would eat up virtually all of Asser Levy Park's open recreational space.

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